



U.S. Air Force AIM POINTS

A daily summary of news, messages and communication tactics to help AF people tell the AF story.

Oct 30, 2003

NEWS ABOUT THE MILITARY

- **Tanker lease:** Buying rather than leasing could delay programs such as MC2A. ([Defense Daily](#))^{eb} AF tried to dupe lawmakers over corrosion threat to tankers, Sen McCain contends. ([Reuters](#)) AF should follow procurement rules. ([Tacoma News Trib](#) editorial)^{eb}
- **Academy continues to excel** in academics, research despite assault problems. ([CSG](#) editorial)^{eb}
- **Lawmakers close** to agreement on compromise on 'buy America' bill. ([Financial Times](#))^{eb}
- **Gen Martin: No base** 'BRAC-proof' but Robins AFB looks to be in good shape. ([Macon Telegraph](#))^{eb}
- **US military worries** about protecting space-based assets against multifaceted threats. ([Defense Daily](#))^{eb}
- **JFCOM to look at** 'functionally oriented' standing joint force HQ concept. ([Inside the Pentagon](#))^{eb}
- **RAND: Contracts for design**, development may dry up for US military aircraft companies. ([Aero Daily](#))^{eb}
- **US shouldn't use military** to promote democracy around the world. ([Grand Forks Herald](#) opinion)^{eb}

OIF & WAR ON TERRORISM NEWS

- **Predawn raids in Tikrit** net more than a dozen terror network suspects. ([AP](#))^{eb}
- **Lawmakers agree** on \$18B direct grant for rebuilding Iraq. ([LA Times](#))^{eb}
- **Bush admin tells Pentagon** to speed up training for Iraqi security forces. ([NYT](#))
- **Senate panel gives CIA** 48 hours to turn over files on Iraq it gathered before the war. ([BBC News](#))
- **US postwar deaths** in Iraq surpass toll of main phase of combat. ([Knight Ridder](#))
- **CENTCOM restricts** Guard, Reserve generals' visits to troops in Iraq, Afghanistan. ([Inside the Pentagon](#))^{eb}
- **UN plans to reduce staff** in Baghdad. ([AP](#))
- **Red Cross to pull** some foreign staff out of HQ in Baghdad but will continue to operate. ([Reuters](#))
- **Iraqi death toll** in first month of invasion, occupation around 15,000, study concludes. ([Guardian](#))
- **US military uses money** from seized Iraqi assets for rebuilding projects. ([Wash Post](#))^{eb}
- **House OKs bill** to double death benefit for families of troops killed in Iraq, Afghanistan. ([AP](#))^{eb}
- **Multinational division** in Iraq one of most diverse ever, representing 21 countries. ([AFPS](#))
- **Kandahar Air Field** gets facelift. ([AFPS](#))

OF INTEREST

- **First firefighter dies** battling CA wildfires. ([CNN](#))
- **China, N Korea agree** to six-party talks. ([BBC News](#))
- **Iran: US must release assets**, lift sanctions, halt accusations of supporting terrorism. ([AP](#))
- **China joins EU's Galileo** project, rival of US GPS satellite navigation system. ([London Times](#))^{eb}
- **Arctic ice pack thinning**, scientists find. ([BBC News](#))

TODAY'S MESSAGE

A B-1B from AFMC's AF Flight Test Center set 50 world speed records in two flights at Edwards AFB's Open House and Air Show Oct 25 and 26.

The B-1B broke the records on one speed dash and three closed circuit courses, with the start and finish of most of the record-breaking flights above the center of air show activity.

The bombs were dropped on the Precision Range Impact Area, visible from the open house area and demonstrating to thousands of onlookers how effective the bombers can be.

Edwards B-1B crews set the records to

- Celebrate the Centennial of Flight
- Demonstrate the performance and combat capability of the super-sonic bomber
- Improve on the B-1B's capabilities

SENIOR LEADERS ARE SAYING...

- These historic milestones are made possible by the detailed planning and precise and safe execution of a demanding military mission. **It's appropriate that the mighty B-1B bomber set these records at the Edwards air show.** It showcased to our community our rich history and the role we've had in the advancement of military air power. (AFFTC/CC, Oct 03)

IDEAS THAT WORK

- Learn more about the **B-1B world records**, including details of the specific records that were broken, at www.edwards.af.mil/news/index.html.

AMERICANS ARE SAYING...

- 50% **disapprove** of the way the US has handled the situation in Iraq since the major fighting ended; 47% approve.
- 54% **favor the war with Iraq**; 43% are opposed. (CNN/USA Today/Gallup, 24-26 Oct)

TODAY'S INTERVIEWS

- **Colorado Springs Gazette** w/ SAF/MR on AF Academy Agenda for Change
- **Jane's Defence Wkly** w/ SAF/AQ on tanker lease

CALENDAR

- **DoD media availability** w/ US representatives who recently returned from Iraq, 0920 ET
- **DEPSECDEF gives 24th annual Oscar Iden Lecture**, Georgetown University, Wash DC, 1130 ET
- **SECDEF** speaks at Empower America Freedom Award dinner, US Chamber of Commerce, Wash DC, 1830 ET
- Oct 30-Nov 2 **Airlift/Tanker Association** Convention & Symposium, Anaheim CA